

December 29, 2024
First Sunday of Christmas

PRELUDE "L'heure exquisite" Hahn

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL HUNGER OFFERING

OPENING SENTENCES

Praise the Lord! Ps. 148:1, 7, 12
Praise God in the heavens.
Praise the Lord from the earth!
Young and old alike,
men and women together.
Praise the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+ **CAROL: GTG #123** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" CAROL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonder,
you surround us with signs of your glory
and surprise us with your presence,
yet we often miss the marvels you place before us.
Forgive our dullness and make us alert
to the ways you make yourself known,
that we might be witnesses to your good news
and proclaim your extravagant love;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

... In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

CAROL: GTG #128 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... O God of Love,
draw us together in peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CAROL: GTG #115 "Away in a Manger" MUELLER

Children and youth are dismissed to Kids Church

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Were You There?" arr. Hogan

+ **RESPONSE: GTG #113** GLORIA
"Angels We Have Heard on High" (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

+ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

+ **CAROL: GTG #145** "What Child Is This" GREENSLEEVES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 O.T. page 193
Samuel grew in favor with all

PSALM Psalm 148
God's splendor is over earth and heaven

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.
Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.
Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,
who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law which will not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;
sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
young men and maidens,
old and young together.
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted,
whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
The LORD has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all faithful servants,
the children of Israel,
a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Colossians 3:12-17 N.T. page 156
Clothe yourselves in love

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:41-52 N.T. page 45
Jesus increased in favor with all

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Heb. 1:2
Now God has spoken to us through Jesus Christ the Son.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Mary's Little Boy Child" Hairston
Monte Shuck, guitar

SERMON "Jesus Grows Up" Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

+ **CAROL: GTG #132** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" IN DULCI JUBILO

+ **CHARGE** Col. 3:17
Whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God through him.
Amen.

+ **BLESSING**
May the Christ inhabit you,
the Father uphold you,
and the Spirit sustain you,
now and forever.
Alleluia!

POSTLUDE "Quia Respexit" from Magnificat Bach

You are invited to join us
for fellowship and refreshments
after worship in the Memorial Room.
It is not necessary to remain seated during the postlude.

SERVING US TODAY
Liturgist: Mary Ozee
Guest Pianist: Yushi Hu
Greeters: Mary and Will Ozee
Next Week's Greeters: Ron Dlouhy and Nancy Sue MacDonald
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Tami Chapman
Security: Tim Hammond



CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#10: Barnabas:

A disciple named Joseph, a Jewish priest from Cyprus, shares his wealth. The apostles call him "Barnabas," which means "Son of Encouragement." (Acts 4:32-37)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 37. Was the covenant with Israel an everlasting covenant?

Yes. With the coming of Jesus the covenant with Israel was expanded and confirmed. By faith in him Gentiles were welcomed into the covenant. This throwing open of the gates confirmed the promise that through Israel God's blessing would come to all peoples. Although for the most part Israel has not accepted Jesus as the Messiah, God has not rejected Israel. God still loves Israel, and God is their hope, "for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable" (Rom. 11:29). The God who has reached out to unbelieving Gentiles will not fail to show mercy to Israel as the people of the everlasting covenant.

CREDITS

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Office hours: Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

MINISTERS

All Members

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches

Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick

Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka

Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse

Office Manager: Jessica Tessman

Financial Secretary: Jess Weber

Choral Music Accompanist: Le Ji

Sexton: Eric VanDyke

Office Assistant: Nancy Sue MacDonald

Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey

Child Care: Jill Castle, Hannah Koutz, Jasmine Leffew, Violet Mackey, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons, Keren Tayong

ELDERS

Class of 2024: Jerry Ambrose, Lucinda Davenport, Loren Harkness, Tonya Seely.

Class of 2025: Doreen Chapman, Mary Garland Jackson, Monte Shuck.

Class of 2026: Bruce Archer (*Clerk of Session*), Ginnie Gibson, Jane Hamelink, Tim Hammond

Elders-Elect: Travis Archer, Dan Baker, Evelyn Tayong, Steve Sowles (three-year terms); Greg Lang (one-year term)

DEACONS

Class of 2024: Donna Hujsak (*Secretary*), Issie Nielsen, Camille Subject.

Class of 2025: Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Timothy Pinches, Tom Seely (*Moderator*).

Class of 2026: Ron Dlouhy (*Treasurer*), Bill Leutscher, Sandy Leutscher, Nancy Sue MacDonald, Laurie McGonigal

Deacons-Elect: Donna Archer, Rick Cote, Debbie Johnson, Issie Nielsen

EVENTS THIS WEEK

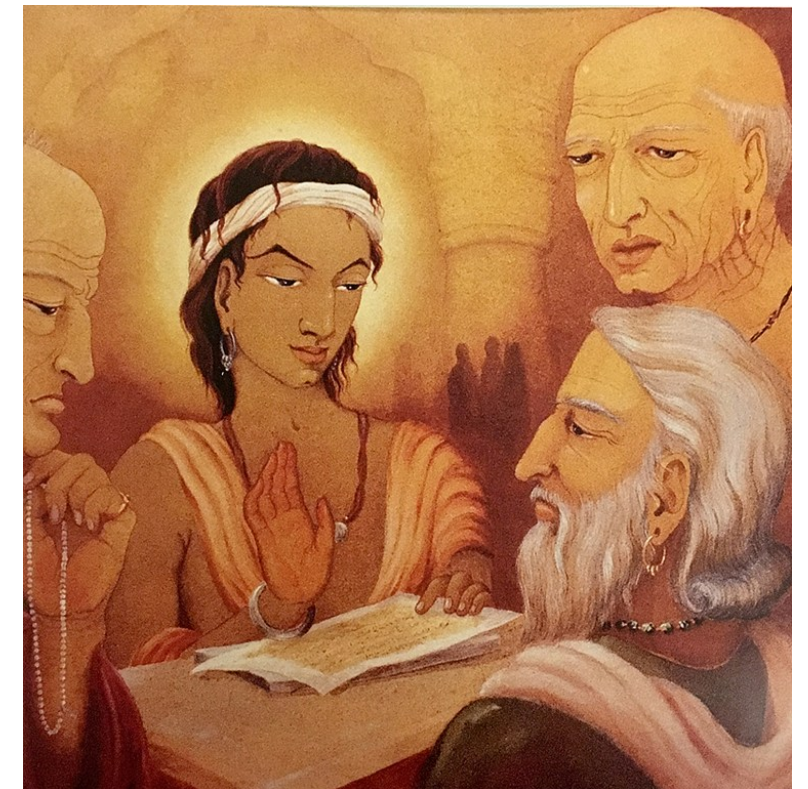
Dec. 26-31	Pastor Bill on vacation	
Monday	Limited office hours	
Tuesday	Church Office closed	
Wednesday	Church Office closed (<i>Happy New Year!</i>)	
Thursday	Administration Committee	7:00 pm
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	
Saturday	Yarners	10:00 am

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Dec. 30: Beckett Barber Dec. 30: Caidra VanDyke

Mason First Presbyterian Church

December 29, 2024 First Sunday of Christmas



Boy Jesus with the Teachers
by Frank Wesley, 20th century

*A warm and caring Christ-centered community of faith,
actively serving and nurturing one another and our neighbors,
embracing diversity, and fostering spiritual growth*